

## CHAPTER THREE

### METHODOLOGY

#### INTRODUCTION

The main purpose of this study is to analyse statistical data of non-print/electronic publications received and registered by Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia through legal deposit since the enforcement of *the Deposit of Library Material Act, 1986*. In relation to this, the study also examined the issues related to legal deposit of electronic publications and suggests several recommendations to ensure legal deposit of the publications.

As there are no local studies that could be located on the subject of legal deposit of electronic publications, this study can be considered as an exploratory study. The researcher hopes that this study will be used for future research on the subject. Thus, this study must be regarded as simply a first step, as more carefully controlled studies are needed to test whether the results of the findings is of significance and have general applicability.

This study is a case study as it involves a close examination of a unique problem within an institution and provides the opportunity for detailed analyses of the research problem. The problem is related to the legal deposit of electronic publications received by the National Depository Centre, Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia. The study examined several questions that can be stated as:

- (a) What are the types of non-print/electronic publications received by Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia under the *Deposit of Library Material Act, 1986* from the years 1988 - 2000?

- (b) What is the total number of non-print/electronic publications received and registered annually?
- (c) What is the subject coverage of the non-print/electronic publications received and registered from the years 1988 - 2000?
- (d) What are the issues related to legal deposit of electronic publications?
- (e) What are the recommendations to ensure legal deposit of electronic publications?

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia is the national depository institution designated to receive publications published in the country as stipulated in the *Deposit of Library of Material Act, 1986*. This study involves analyses of statistical data of non-print material compiled by the National Depository Centre since the enforcement of the *Deposit of Library Material Act, 1986* from 1988 to 2000. The statistics of non-print material received and registered by the National Depository Centre are classified according to types of material and subject.

The types of non-print material received and registered by the National Depository Centre since the enforcement of the *Deposit Library Material Act, 1986* are as follows:

- (a) audio compact discs
- (b) video compact discs
- (c) laser discs

- (d) audio cassettes
- (e) video cassettes
- (f) betacam
- (g) films
- (h) multimedia kit
- (i) transparencies
- (j) phonorecords
- (k) microfiches
- (l) flash cards
- (m) CD-ROMs
- (n) diskettes, and
- (o) computer software.

The last three types of non-print material are electronic publications as defined by the CDNL Working Group (1994) and also Lariviere (2000).

The types of non-print material received and registered under legal deposit are also classified according to subjects based on the ten major divisions of the Dewey Decimal Classification Scheme:

000-099	Generalities
100-199	Philosophy and Psychology
200-299	Religion
300-399	Social Sciences
400-499	Language

500-599	Natural Sciences and Mathematics
600-699	Technology (Applied Sciences)
700-799	The Arts
800-899	Literature and Rhetoric
900-999	Geography and History

However, five of the above major divisions are further broken down into subdivisions:

300-399	Social Sciences
300 - 319	Sociology, Statistics
320 - 339	Politics, Economics
340 - 369	Law, public administration, social welfare, insurance, military art and science
370 - 379	Education
380 - 389	Trade, communication, transport, tourism
390 - 399	Ethnography, cultural anthropology (customs, folklore, mores, tradition)
500-599	Natural Sciences and Mathematics
510 - 519	Mathematics
520 - 599	Natural sciences
600-699	Technology (Applied Sciences)
610 - 619	Medical Science, public health
620 - 629	Engineering, technology, industries, trades and crafts

630 - 639	Agriculture, forestry, stockbreeding, hunting, fisheries
640 - 649	Domestic science
650 - 659	Management, administration and organisation
700-799	The Arts
710 - 729	Physical planning, town and country planning, architecture
730 - 779	Plastic and graphic arts, photography
780 - 792	Music, performing arts, theatre, film and cinema
793 - 799	Games and sports
900-999	Geography and History
910 - 919	Geography
920 - 999	History, biography

In order to enhance the statistical data analysis of non-print/electronic publications received and registered by the National Depository Centre, this study is supported by interview technique in order to obtain information regarding the issues related to legal deposit of electronic publications. Personal interviews were conducted with the following persons:

1. The Director of the National Depository Centre, Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia.
2. Five publishers selected from the list of publishers who have deposited more than five titles of electronic publications with the National Depository Centre, Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia (Table 1).

Table 1: Selected publishers that deposited more than five titles

<b>Publisher</b>	<b>No. of titles</b>
a. CIE Integrated (M) Sdn. Bhd.	56
b. Technology Education Division, Ministry of Education Malaysia	13
c. Net Space Learning Sdn. Bhd	8
d. Star Publications (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd	7
e. Macroworld Sdn. Bhd	7

## QUESTIONNAIRE DESIGN

The researcher has chosen the personal interview technique to obtain information from the respondents, as the technique is more effective than mail questionnaire. Personal contact made in the interview technique has also helped to encourage the interviewee to respond fully to the questions. The personal interviews were structured where a list of questions was developed specially for the respondents. The questions developed for the standardised interviews were based on several issues relating to legal deposit of electronic publications, which were identified in the process of literature review. The questions are in English and they include close and open-ended statements.

There are two sets of questions used to obtain information on legal deposit of electronic publications from the respondents. They are as follows:

- Questionnaire A is a set of questions designed to obtain information from the Director of National Depository Centre, Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia (Appendix 2). The questions are divided into five parts as follows:

- (a) Selection of electronic publications for legal deposit
  - (b) Need for legal deposit of electronic publications
  - (c) Access and preservation of deposited electronic publications
  - (d) Maintenance and handling of deposited electronic publications
  - (e) Legal issues - Fear of publishers and licensing
- Questionnaire B is a set of questions designed to obtain information from the publishers who have deposited more than five titles of electronic publications with Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia (Appendix 3). The questionnaire is divided into the following parts:
    - (a) Selection of electronic publications for legal deposit
    - (b) Production of electronic publications
    - (c) Need for legal deposit of electronic publications
    - (d) Access and preservation of deposited electronic publications
    - (e) Legal issues - Fear of publishers and licensing

## DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

The statistical data of non-print/electronic publications received and registered through legal deposit by Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia were obtained from the National Depository Centre, Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia. The data were compiled by the Centre since the enforcement of the *Deposit of Library Material Act, 1986* for the years 1988 - 2000. The statistical data were then interpreted, classified and presented in tables, figures and narrative form using Microsoft Excel 97.

The personal interviews were conducted to gather qualitative data for analysis with regards to issues relating to legal deposit of electronic publications. Interviews with the Director of the National Depository Centre were held in early July 2001. Although five publishers were selected for the interview only three agreed to be interviewed. The interviews were conducted in early July 2001 and the publishers who agreed to the interview were:

- (a) CIE Integrated (M) Sdn. Bhd.
- (b) Technology Education Division, Ministry of Education Malaysia
- (c) Net Space Learning Sdn. Bhd.

The other two publishers namely Star Publications (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd. and Macroworld Sdn. Bhd. opted to answer the schedule of questions via e-mail, as the former had a tight schedule, while the latter is based in Kuantan, Pahang. The questions were e-mailed in early July 2001 and a follow-up by telephone was made two weeks later. However, both publishers did not respond to the e-mail questions. The information obtained through the interviews was used in the discussion of Chapter Five.

## SUMMARY

This chapter presents the overall design and methodology of the study. It includes the statistical analysis of data of non-print/electronic publications compiled by the National Depository Centre, Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia. It also describes the questionnaire/instrument used for the personal interviews to support the study and



provides a brief outline of the issues related to legal deposit of electronic publications. It then explains how the interview was conducted, how the data was collected and analysed.